

2. Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-16. (*Canceled*)

Claim 17. (*Previously presented*) The hematopoietic cell expansion medium of claim 19, further comprising a cellular growth factor.

Claim 18. (*Previously presented*) The method according to claim 20, further comprising contacting the cells with a cellular growth factor.

Claim 19. (*Currently amended*) A hematopoietic cell expansion medium, comprising a cell growth medium and a: ~~Flt3 ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3 ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:~~

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6 ~~that bind flt3;~~
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6 ~~(a), wherein the fragment binds flt3;~~
- (c) ~~polypeptides comprising a polypeptide that binds flt3 that is at least 90% identical to amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; or and~~
- (d) ~~polypeptides comprising a fragment of (c), a polypeptide that is at least 90% identical to amino acids 28-160, wherein the fragment binds flt3.~~

Claim 20. (*Currently amended*) An *in vitro* method for expanding hematopoietic cells, the method comprising contacting the cells with a: ~~Flt3 ligand polypeptide in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion, wherein the Flt3 ligand polypeptide is selected from the group consisting of:~~

- (a) polypeptides comprising amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6 ~~that bind flt3;~~
- (b) polypeptides comprising a fragment of acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6, wherein the fragment binds flt3;
- (c) polypeptide that binds flt3 that is at least 90% identical to amino acids 28-160 of SEQ ID NO:6; or and
- (d) ~~polypeptides comprising a fragment of (c), a polypeptide that is at least 90% identical to amino acids 28-160, wherein the fragment binds flt3;~~

in an amount sufficient to cause hematopoietic cell expansion.

Claim 21. *(Previously presented)* The hematopoietic cell expansion medium of claim 19, further comprising G-CSF.

Claim 22. *(Previously presented)* The hematopoietic cell expansion medium of claim 19, further comprising GM-CSF.

Claim 23. *(Previously presented)* The hematopoietic cell expansion medium of claim 19, further comprising SF.

Claim 24. *(Previously presented)* The hematopoietic cell expansion medium of claim 19, further comprising EPO.

Claim 25. *(Previously presented)* The hematopoietic cell expansion medium of claim 19, further comprising a GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion protein.

Claim 26. *(Previously presented)* The hematopoietic cell expansion medium of claim 19, further comprising IL-6.

Claims 27-30. *(Cancelled)*

Claim 31. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 20, further comprising contacting the cells with G-CSF.

Claim 32. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 20, further comprising contacting the cells with GM-CSF.

Claim 33. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 20, further comprising contacting the cells with SF.

Claim 34. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 20, further comprising contacting the cells with EPO.

Claim 35. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 20, further comprising contacting the cells with a GM-CSF/IL-3 fusion protein.

Claim 36. *(Previously presented)* The method according to claim 20, further comprising contacting the cells with IL-6.